

Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR

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PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

The story of the presence of 80,000 Japanese in the extreme north of Korea is again discounted by the news that the Russian troops have peacefully occupied Wiju on the Korean side of the Yalu river, a city also in the extreme north. If any large Japanese army was there, such a move by Alexieff's forces would naturally have brought on a battle. It is still possible that the Japanese, as a means of getting to the railroad and turning the flank of the Yalu positions, have landed west of the river in Manchuria; and at the same time it is well to remember that all the talk of great military movements there may be merely designed to attract the Russians from the real point of invasion. Despite the attestation of Associated Press dispatches and the self-evident value to Japan of striking the railroad between Harbin and Port Arthur, the published census of Japanese troops in Korea seems unreal. Fewer men than 80,000 could do the northern job. Then again, if 80,000 troops are in the north with an enemy close by, why don't they fight? Moreover why should a total force of 120,000 men be wasted on Korea at this time of year—a place where, except on the Manchurian border, there is no enemy; and where no enemy could reach the Japanese overland through a roadless, mountainous country, alternately subject to blizzards and floods, or reach them by sea in the presence of a victorious Japanese fleet. Finally, have the Japanese such a superfluity of trained men that they can put more troops in garrison in peaceful Korea and leave them there idle, than they sent to China for war-making purposes in 1894-95, and have enough left to deal with the tremendous and vital military problems of the Liaotung peninsula?

The official news received at the Japanese Consulate from Minister Takahira at Washington, quotes Alexieff on the subject of Russian losses during the naval engagements, inclusive, probably, of the one on the 14th. The disabled list is as follows:

Retvizan, 12,700 tons.
Tsarevitch, 12,000 tons.
Petropavlovsk, 10,960 tons.
Sebastopol, 10,960 tons.
Pallada, 6,630 tons.
Askold, 6,100 tons.
Novik, 3,000 tons.
Boyarin (slightly), 3,200 tons.

Alexieff solaced himself, in making this report, with the statement that fifteen Japanese ships were disabled. According to Minister Takahira no Japanese ship was harmed. It was as easily won a victory as that of Dewey at Manila bay.

Another fiction is also officially disposed of. On Sunday the Russians claimed a victory at Pigeon—or Dove—bay, over a landing force of 12,000 Japanese. Now Alexieff speaks of destroying a Japanese surveying party at Pigeon Bay. The Japanese deny, through Minister Takahira, that any landing has been attempted.

At present there is a lull in fresh war news—probably the lull before the storm.

NEED OF MORE POLICE.

The list of articles stolen by the Japanese Asa, reads like the inventory of an auction house. That dry loads of furniture could have been stolen from thickly settled neighborhoods and peddled in other centers of local population, the business going on for months and almost wholly in the daytime, and the police knowing nothing about it, is a most remarkable state of things. Robbery after robbery occurred, complaints were made, there was the usual hue and cry, but the burglar, with his wagon piled up with marbled-topped tables and pier glasses, publicly and cheerfully went on hawking the plunder. Nobody asked him if he had a peddler's license; nobody inquired how he could sell a set of silverware or a bedroom suite for a couple of dollars; people bought right and left. Some of them were innocent purchasers, no doubt, for the policy of keeping the reports of robberies from the public made it impossible for the public to know what was doing in burglary; others were little better than receivers of stolen goods; but all of them made up a large public which included almost every variety of inhabitant except policemen. Asa and his delivery wagon might be running the streets yet but for a resident who called up the police station to notify that the Jap was making his accustomed rounds.

A city organized like those of the mainland, with interlocking police beats in every part of it, each beat occupied night and day by dependable men could not be plundered as is the case with Honolulu. Here, owing to the limited police and the flimsy tropical architecture which invites the prowler, the conditions for burglary are all that could be desired. And what is more, the criminal element, from chicken thieves to store-breakers, are making the most of them. The only remedy is to put Honolulu under

such a police system as they have in most American cities.

Money spent on purely ornamental adjuncts of the Government might well be put into a larger and more dependable police force.

One correspondent who happened to be in quarantine on board a British ship at Port Arthur saw the fighting there and reported it. But there was no one with the belligerents. The files show that the correspondents had not reached the front a week ago and it is doubtful that they are there yet, unless the invaders of Korea took some along. In any event the public need not expect accurate forecasts from them as, no matter how well informed they may be, the Japanese government controls the cable and never permits its use to give military plans away. The elimination of the cipher code on outgoing dispatches was one of the first things the Japanese did when war was decided upon.

One of the earliest war telegrams announced the cutting of the cable between Korea and Japan by the Japanese. This paper doubted the story, inasmuch as the latter credited the Japanese on the peninsula with the intent of depriving themselves of all communication with their base of supplies. In the Advertiser the news was interpreted as meaning the severance of the cable between Korea and the Chinese mainland. Since then messages have been passing freely between Chemulpo, Masampo and Tokio, but none at all have crossed the Yellow Sea, bearing out the propriety of this paper's correction.

The soldier of fortune on board the Gaelic who expects to get command of a Japanese cavalry regiment may as well prepare to be disappointed. The Japanese take pride in the fact that no foreigners are attached, in any capacity, to either branch of the service.

Judging from what newsboys say, the fake extra business has met a financial frost.

MEN TO EXPLAIN CAUSE OF WAR

Mr. Minekishi, Commissioner of Finance for Japan, to the St. Louis exposition, Sakurai, Collector of Customs at Kobe, and Shugio, another St. Louis Fair Commissioner, who are passengers to the coast on the steamship Doric, were entertained by a number of Honolulu Japanese at a club house on Vineyard street last evening.

During the evening Mr. Minekishi was interviewed by an Advertiser reporter. Like the other officials he was much elated over the reports the party had received here of Japan's successes in the war and stated that enthusiasm ran high on the war question all over Japan. Every man, woman, and child, in Japan, he said, believes that Japan is doing the only proper thing in fighting the Russians and by this time must be in a great state of enthusiasm over the early victories.

Mr. Minekishi stated that in a few weeks prominent Japanese will be sent out from their home countries to the United States, Great Britain, and other powers that are friendly to the Japanese to explain why Japan had entered into the conflict and that these men would clear up much of the misunderstanding regarding the situation.

FARMS IN MOROCCO.

To American eyes a farm in Morocco is hardly to be distinguished from the surrounding country. One sees no barns, nor granaries, nor scarcely any sign of cultivated fields nor fence lines to define where the farm begins or ends. The Moorish farmhouse looks a series of crumbling walls, not connected; but in different sections of the tumbledown pile are three or four small, narrow rooms, with no windows and a poor apology for a door. This is the prevalent style of dwelling throughout the country, with the exception of a few out-of-town residences of the rich and powerful. For even if a farmer should possess any wealth he must hide all evidences of it lest he attract the rapacious eyes of governmental authorities. Even the little harvests the farmers have to hide away in pits to screen them from the jealous and greedy eyes of the tax gatherer. The farm implements are patriarchal in their simplicity; a few boughs tied together, weighted with a heavy stone, and drawn by a mule or a camel, constitute the farmer's only harrow. His plow is but a forked stick. Yet, though the soil is only scratched with such poor implements, it is so fertile that it yields abundant harvest in proportion to the small amount of labor expended.—Outing.

DEPRAVED LONDON APPETITES.

There is a growing demand for strange delicacies in London. Among these peculiar dishes sought after by English gourmands are edible birds' nests; "visaga," the dried backbone of the sturgeon; escargots, or French snails, and also frogs. A small plate of bird's nest soup, little more than a mouthful, costs 5 shillings.

PREPARE FOR CROUP.—The time wasted in sending for a physician when a child shows symptoms of the croup, often leads to fatal results. A reliable medicine and one that should always be kept in the home ready for immediate use is Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It never fails and will prevent the attack if given as soon as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the croupy cough appears. For sale by all dealers and druggists. Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd., agents for Hawaii.

TAFT ENTERTAINED BY MEN OF YALE

(Mail Special to the Advertiser.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 4.—The Yale men in Washington city, numbering about one hundred and fifty, entertained Governor Taft at dinner on the evening of February 1st.

He had taken his oath of office as Secretary of War at noon of that day. President Gilman was the master of ceremonies. Beside him were Gov. Taft, the Chinese Minister, who is a Yale man and an "Andover boy," President Hadley of Yale who arrived late on account of a belated train. Many noted Yale men were present. To the Presidential toast, Mr. Henry Hoyt, Solicitor General, replied. He is a member of '78. President Hadley, in his speech said that on his way down, an hour before in the train, he overheard two men in conversation. One of them said "That Taft is a rising man." "Yes," said the other, "the risingest man in America." Gov. Taft spoke at some length. He made a strong plea for the education of the Filipinos. He admitted that he was something of a crank on the subject. He thought that under the present wise system of American administration, those people would in time be fitted for self-government. They were not Asiatics in religion but had for three hundred years a knowledge of and some training in Christianity. Their ideals were European and not Oriental. If asked how long it would be before they were fitted for self-rule, he could only reply that he could not tell. We must do our duty and the rest would take care of itself. There had been most unfavorable conditions existing in those Islands owing to the presence of seventy thousand American soldiers and the contempt which the soldiers had for the people. Besides, there had been many undesirable Americans there, who did not treat the natives well. The Germans, the Swiss, the English merchants knew how to deal with the people, and made progress, and therefore pushed the Americans aside.

The Chinese Minister, though attending with the express agreement that he should make no speech, did make an excellent one. He spoke of the fine work done by the Chinese Yale men in China. He wished that there were many more of them and of the graduates of other colleges.

Each guest was provided with a cartoon of Governor Taft, and he was repeatedly alluded to as "Billy Taft." In one of the songs, the chorus was: O Taft, Billy Taft!

When they rough-house the Filipino, We will howl for Billy Taft! At the reception given to Gov. Taft on Friday night by out-going Secretary Root, a toast written by Col. Archibald Hopkins, known to many Island people, was read by Secretary Root while all of the guests rose.

THREE CHEERS FOR TAFT.

The toasts:
The toast, with brimming glasses to be quaffed;
There's but one name tonight, and that is Taft;
A name we're proud to take upon our lips,
Then drain our glasses—'tis no toast for sips;
Let glasses clink, and raise three roaring cheers,
For him we hail as prince among his peers.
May threatening clouds on him forbear to break,
Health, fame and joy with him their dwelling make,
Abiding love, prosperity and peace,
Attend his way till days allotted cease.
We cannot weigh, here at our genial feast,
His heavy burden in the far off East:
We cannot gauge the sacrifice it meant,
Those toilsome years in the hot tropics spent;
But this we know, and this we clearly gauge,
No soldier, statesman, chief, in any age
E'er earned, abroad, at home, for victory won;
A surer title to the meed, "Well done,"
Than he, returned from duty's arduous quest,
Who's here tonight a loved and honored guest.

State builder; 'tis a title nobler far,
Than his who, thundering from a victor's car,
Brings governments and states to ruin down,
To gain for self, a conqueror's gilded crown.
Winner of hearts; he built his state on these,
And knew no homage of base cringing knees;
Such structures live; the tyrant who commands,
Builds but for now, upon the shifting sands.
It needs no prophet's eye to read his fate;
His time will surely come to head the state,
Or should he such a great ambition quench,
To sit as Chief, upon the highest Bench;
The toast, with brimming glasses to be quaffed;
There's but one name tonight, and that is Taft.

W. N. A.

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THERAPION. This successful remedy, used in the Continental Hospitals by Ricord, Boisson, Robert, Velpeau, and others, combined all the desiderata to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses everything hitherto employed. **THERAPION No. 1** maintains the world-renowned and well-earned reputation for damage to the kidneys, pairs in the back, and kindred ailments, affording prompt relief where other well-tried remedies have been powerless. **THERAPION No. 2** fortifies the blood, cures, purifies, spots, blotches, pains and swelling of joints, gout, rheumatism, and all diseases for which it has been too much a fashion to employ mercury. **THERAPION No. 3**, to the destruction of sordid teeth and ruin of health. This preparation purifies the whole system through the blood, and thoroughly eliminates all poisonous matter from the body. **THERAPION No. 4** for exhaustion, sleeplessness, and all distressing consequences of disipation, worry, overwork, &c. It possesses surprising power in restoring strength and vigor to those suffering from the enervating influence of long residence in hot, unwholesome climates. **THERAPION** is sold by the principal Chemists and Druggists throughout the world. Price in England, 2s. 6d. and 4s. 6d. In ordering state which of the three numbers is required, and observe that the word "THERAPION" appears on the British Government Stamp (a white letter on a red ground) affixed to every genuine package. Order of the Royal Society, and without which it is a forgery.

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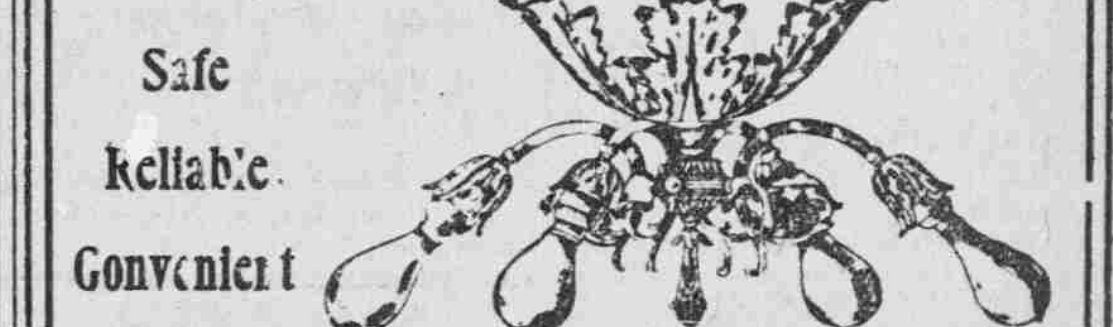
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